((RIN0910–AG57) (Docket No. FDA–2011–N–0172)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2366. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Hearing Before the Food and Drug Administration; Technical Amendment'' (Docket No. FDA–2015–N–0011) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 20, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2367. A communication from the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Potomac Electric Power Company, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Company's Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2368. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21–99, ''Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request Act of 2015''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2369. A communication from the Human Resources Specialist (Executive Resources), Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Administrator, Small Business Administration, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2015; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC–2370. A communication from the Executive Director, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's 2013 Annual Report to the President and Congress; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2371. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to accomplishments made under the Airport Improvement Program for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2372. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''2015 Annual Report: The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Status of Actions Addressing the Safety Issue Areas on the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) Most Wanted List''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2373. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Numbering Policies for Modern Communications, IP–Enabled Services . . . Connect America Fund, and Numbering Resource Optimization'' ((RIN3060–AK36) (FCC 15–70)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2374. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Canned Pacific Salmon; Technical Amendment'' (Docket No. FDA–2015–N–0011) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2375. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Khapra Beetle; New Regulated Countries and Regulated Articles'' (Docket No. APHIS–2013–0079) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2376. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense (DoD) intending to assign women to previously closed positions in the Army; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2377. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Packaged Terminal Air Conditioners and Packaged Terminal Heat Pumps'' ((RIN1904–AC82) (Docket No. EERE–2012–BT–STD–0029)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2378. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''The Year in Trade 2014''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–2379. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14–135); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2380. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary/Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2381. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Annual Report for 2014 on Disability-Related Air Travel Complaints''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–52. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to designate Grambling State University as a United States Department of Agriculture 1890 land-grant institution; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 102

Whereas, a land-grant college or university is a postsecondary education institution that has been designated to receive the benefits of the federal Morrill Acts of 1862 or 1890; and

Whereas, there is at least one land-grant institution in every state and territory of the United States, as well as the District of Columbia, and over the years, land-grant status has been associated with several types of federal support; and

Whereas, two universities in this state, Louisiana State University (LSU) and Southern University (SU), are designated as land-grant institutions; LSU received this designation in 1862, and in 1890, what is known as the Second Morrill Act conferred land-grant status to several historically black colleges and universities, commonly referred to as ''1890 land-grant institutions'', and SU is among this group; and

Whereas, Grambling State University, located in Grambling, Louisiana, is seeking designation as an 1890 land-grant institution under the banner of the Second Morrill Act; and

Whereas, Grambling State University was founded in 1901 by the North Louisiana Colored Agriculture Relief Association; in 1905, it moved to its present location and was renamed the North Louisiana Agricultural and Industrial School; in 1946, it became Grambling College; and in 1949, it earned its first accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and

Whereas, in 1974, the school began to offer graduate programs in early childhood and elementary education and acquired the name Grambling State University; over the years, several new academic programs have been incorporated and new facilities added to the 384-acre campus; and

Whereas, Grambling now offers more than eight hundred courses and forty-seven degree programs in five colleges, including an honors college, two professional schools, a graduate school, and a Division of Continuing Education; and

Whereas, Grambling combines the academic strengths of a major university with the benefits of a small college, and its students grow and learn in a serene and positive environment; and

Whereas, in addition to being one of the country's top producers of African American graduates, Grambling is home to the internationally renowned Tiger Marching Band and remains proud of the legacy of the late Eddie Robinson, Sr., a truly legendary football coach; and

Whereas, Grambling places an emphasis on the value and importance of each student, which is exemplified by its motto, ''Where Everybody is Somebody''; and

Whereas, after more than a decade since its founding, Grambling remains an important influence in the quality of lives and communities of generations of North Louisiana residents; and

Whereas, the designation of Ohio's Central State University as an 1890 land-grant institution in the 2014 Farm Bill set a very recent precedent for the addition of a university to the land-grant system; and

Whereas, the nation's system of land-grant institutions would be strengthened by the inclusion of Grambling State University; and

Whereas, as a historically black university with a strong record of academics, research, and service, Grambling, with its rich history and traditions, would bring a unique perspective to the land-grant system; and

Whereas, for one hundred twenty-five years, the 1890 land-grant institutions have played a vital role in ensuring access to higher education and opportunity for underserved communities, and as such an institution, Grambling would have access to increased resources that it could direct to serving such communities and to providing research, extension, and public services in North Louisiana, an area where these services are not currently being provided sufficiently; and

Whereas, such designation would be consistent with Grambling's agricultural origins and its mission and history of service to African American students and the people of Louisiana and would strengthen Grambling's

research and teaching in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs and enhance existing programs and facilitate the development of new programs in agricultural business, biotechnology, economics, environment and natural resources, family and consumer science, and engineering technology; and

Whereas, Grambling State University has made the same extraordinary contributions to the education of African Americans in the state of Louisiana as other 1890 land-grant universities have made in their respective states; and

Whereas, as the only Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in the University of Louisiana System, the role that Grambling plays in the state is critical; and

Whereas, a land-grant designation would enhance greatly Grambling's service to the people of Louisiana, and it is appropriate that Congress take all necessary measures to grant such designation to Grambling State University: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to designate Grambling State University as a United States Department of Agriculture 1890 land-grant institution; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM–53. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California memorializing the President of the United States and the United States Congress to recognize the unique military value of California's defense installations and the disproportionate sacrifices California has endured in previous base realignment and closure (BRAC) rounds; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11

Whereas, The federal Department of Defense conducted base realignment and closure (BRAC) rounds in 1988, 1991, 1993, 1995, and 2005. The previous BRAC rounds resulted in the closure of 25 major bases in California and the realignment of eight other facilities; and

Whereas, A sixth BRAC round for 2017 has been proposed in the fiscal year 2016 federal budget; and

Whereas, California has been the state hardest hit by the Department of Defense's previous BRAC rounds. In the first four BRAC rounds, for example, the state absorbed 25 percent of the total base closures nationally and 11 percent of the base realignments; and

Whereas, California absorbed 54 percent of personnel cuts in the first four BRAC rounds, losing more federal military jobs from the closure of its military bases than the combined losses in all other states. Additionally, 300,000 private sector defense industry jobs in California were eliminated as a result of those base closures; and

Whereas, These base closures had a severe impact on local governments and communities, some of which continue to struggle with the transition and reuse of these closed bases; and

Whereas, There are currently more than 30 major federal military installations and commands remaining in California that could be closed or realigned as a result of another BRAC process; and

Whereas, The Department of Defense and the defense industry represent a major industry in California today, totaling more than $71 billion in direct spending and employing more than 350,000 Californians. Total effects on the economy far exceed these numbers; and

Whereas, For over half of a century, California's workers, businesses, industries, and universities have contributed to our national security, utilizing their talents, capital, and skills to develop and manufacture new technologies, aircraft, satellites, missiles, and advanced weapons systems; and

Whereas, Military installations provide the foundation for United States defense efforts. Maintaining these installations is, therefore, critical to supporting America's national security. California is vital to the mission and might of our United States military. Our seaports and airports, bases and equipment, research labs and testing grounds support the finest fighting force in the world; and

Whereas, As our nation faces new security threats in the 21st century, California remains ready to confront these dangers. In space, cyberspace, over land, at sea, and in the air, California is helping the military meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. From troop deployment to systems development and cybersecurity, training to logistics, the future of our military is here in California; and

Whereas, Having been the leader in the nation's defense effort, California state government must lead by articulating the national security imperative of maintaining military installations within its borders; and

Whereas, In an effort to be proactive in retaining military facilities within California that are essential to national security, and to provide for a single, focused strategy to defend these installations, in March 2013 Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. established the Governor's Military Council, in an effort to protect and expand the military's vital role in national security and California's economy. The council has met regularly throughout the state since its creation, and is continuing to work to protect California's military installations and operations and to assist in recruiting new defense missions and operations to the state: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That California's military installations possess critical military value and that California is ready to help the Department of Defense meet its goals now and in the future; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the United States, to not only recognize the unique military value of California's defense installations, but also continue to take into consideration all of the following:

(a) California's unparalleled land, air, and sea ranges that provide the ability to train all types of forces, year round, in every type of warfare effectively, efficiently, and economically.

(b) California's strategic location in the Pacific Theater is a critical factor in executing the National Defense Strategy strategic shift to the Pacific region by allowing for rapid deployment to trouble spots in Asia.

(c) California's ability to recruit and train highly skilled and educated personnel.

(d) The existing synergies between military installations and the private sector.

(e) The economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of military installations.

(f) Our incomparable quality of life, which enhances personnel retention.

(g) The vast intellectual capital that has been developed in California since World War II.

(h) The disproportionate sacrifices California has endured in previous BRAC rounds; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

POM–54. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to enact legislation to establish guarantees by the federal government to support the responsible sale of postearthquake bonds by financially sound residential-earthquake-insurance programs operated by any of the several states on an actuarially sound basis; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Whereas, Over the last 30 years, California has experienced 1,451 earthquakes of magnitude 4.0 or greater, ranging from 16 to 168 per year; and

Whereas, Most Californians live within 20 miles of a major earthquake fault capable of producing damaging earthquakes; and

Whereas, On the morning of August 24, 2014, many residents of Napa discovered they lived closer to such a fault than they believed. A magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck American Canyon, south of Napa, at 3:20 a.m., leading to one death and many injuries. The earthquake seriously damaged nearly 100 homes, as well as many historic downtown buildings. It cost local wineries millions of dollars in spilled wine and damaged equipment, and numerous people were injured. The overall damage and effects of the earthquake demonstrated how even a moderate-sized earthquake can have a large impact on a community; and

Whereas, In June 2014, the Los Angeles Times reported that the first five months of the year were marked by five earthquakes larger than magnitude 4.0, after what had been a relatively quiet period of seismic activity for the Los Angeles area. That number of earthquakes at that magnitude had not occurred in a year since 1994, the year of the Northridge earthquake; and

Whereas, Faced with the certainty of its peril from earthquakes, over the last three decades California has repeatedly shown that smart public policy choices can help Californians prepare for a catastrophic earthquake. Milestone innovations across this era include the following:

(a) In the year following the 1983 Coalinga earthquake, California passed the Earthquake Insurance Act, requiring residential property insurers to offer homeowners earthquake coverage, to ensure homeowners considered the possibility of protecting their home from earthquake damage.

(b) In the year after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, California began examining how a state-based financial pool might be constructed to improve protection for homeowners. This effort, the California Residential Earthquake Recovery Fund (CRERF), was intended to cover the cost of earthquake insurance deductibles. While this plan was repealed in 1992 as potentially actuarially unsound, it pointed the way to further innovations.

(c) Since 1996, the multipart funding mechanism of the California Earthquake Authority (CEA), a public instrumentality of the State of California, has succeeded as the primary source of earthquake insurance for California homeowners seeking to protect their homes from earthquakes; and

Whereas, Despite the growing successes of the CEA since its 1996 formation, how it can

be improved has become clear. Almost every news story about California earthquake insurance and the CEA notes that residential earthquake insurance is costly for homeowners and the deductibles are high. The high cost and high deductibles are seen as a key factor behind why only 12 percent of Californians who buy homeowners' insurance also buy earthquake insurance; and

Whereas, There is no better way to prepare California for the inevitability of disastrous earthquakes than to make earthquake insurance work better for its residents. The limitations of the existing system are well-known. Now is the time for the next key step in policy innovation to make the state's earthquake insurance system work better for renters and homeowners; and

Whereas, As the CEA approaches two decades of operation, it has become clear that the CEA has pushed the envelope on how a single state-based pool can materially assist in catastrophe readiness. But by law, the CEA's rates must be actuarially sound and based on the best available scientific information for assessing earthquake frequency, severity, and loss; these sensible conditions also temper the CEA's ability to cut the cost of earthquake insurance; and

Whereas, As a public instrumentality of the state, the CEA must cover all its risks, including the possibility that at any time, a truly catastrophic earthquake might hit the state; and

Whereas, The CEA's need, as a stand-alone, risk-bearing public instrumentality of the state, to always have a plan to cover the chance of a catastrophic earthquake is what, under the current system, keeps the price of earthquake insurance high. For the level of total exposure the policies represent, the rates yield sufficient premiums to pay for a backstop of reinsurance sufficient to offset expected CEA losses in all but the most catastrophic earthquake; and

Whereas, A federal policy of certain access to federal debt guarantees for postevent financing would strengthen the risk-bearing capacity of actuarially sound state-based disaster programs like the CEA and reduce the preevent expense of providing that insurance. In recent sessions of the United States Congress, a proposed federal partnership limited to prequalified, actuarially sound state earthquake insurance programs has been estimated to expose the federal government to a 10-year cost of only $25 million; and

Whereas, A state and federal partnership to enhance the ability of prequalified, actuarially sound state earthquake funds to access postdisaster borrowing would enable California and other states using actuarially sound programs to manage risk with a dramatically better tool; and

Whereas, The CEA's certain access to a federal guarantee of its postearthquake borrowing would ensure access to the private capital markets at reasonable rates, enhancing the claims-paying capacity for a catastrophic earthquake. That lower-cost capacity, in turn, would permit the CEA to adjust its annual purchase of earthquake reinsurance and lower expenses, thus speeding long-term capital accumulation to help CEA modulate its cost of providing basic earthquake insurance across the state: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature urges the President and the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to establish guarantees by the federal government to support the responsible sale of postearthquake bonds by financially sound residential-earthquake-insurance programs operated by any of the several states on an actuarially sound basis; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from the State of California in the Congress of the United States.

POM–55. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California urging the United States Congress to support legislation reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank of the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14

Whereas, The Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank) is the official export credit agency of the United States and exists for the purposes of financing and insuring foreign purchases of United States goods; and

Whereas, The mission of the Ex-Im Bank is to create and sustain United States jobs by financing sales of United States exports to international buyers; and

Whereas, The Ex-Im Bank is the principal government agency responsible for aiding the export of American goods and services, and thereby creating and sustaining United States jobs, through a variety of loan, guarantee, and insurance programs for small and large businesses; and

Whereas, The Ex-Im Bank has supported more than $400 billion in United States exports in the past 70 years and helps to cover critical trade finance gaps by providing loan guaranties, export credit insurance, and direct loans for United States exports in developing markets where commercial bank financing is unavailable or insufficient. For fiscal year 2014, the Ex-Im Bank provided $20.5 billion in loan guarantees which leveraged $27.5 billion in exports while supporting 164,000 United States jobs. Since fiscal year 2009, the bank has supported more than 1.3 million American jobs in all 50 states; and

Whereas, The Ex-Im Bank is a self-sustaining agency, which operates at no cost to the taxpayer and over the last three fiscal years has generated more than $3 billion in fees from its foreign customers which were deposited in the United States Treasury to reduce the United States deficit and indebtedness; and

Whereas, The Ex-Im Bank enables United States companies large and small to turn export opportunities into sales that help to create and maintain jobs in the United States that contribute to a stronger national economy. On average nearly 90 percent of the Ex-Im Bank's transactions support United States small businesses; and

Whereas, Exports are particularly important to the California economy as California is currently ranked second in exports among all states. If California's manufacturing base is to grow, we must continue to expand our ability to export goods from California facilities. Given the key role the Ex-Im Bank plays in facilitating export sales, failure to reauthorize it would be devastating to existing industry and to those that we hope to create in the future; and

Whereas, Over the past five years, the Ex-Im Bank has assisted more than 67 California companies to export their products. Nearly 200 of those companies are owned by women or minorities and over 700 are small businesses. These companies export their products and services around the globe totaling more than $21 billion in sales. Fifty-two of the 53 congressional districts in California had companies benefit from the Ex-Im Bank loans; and

Whereas, A reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank is critical to the ability of many United States exporters to compete on a level playing field in a commercial market where current and future competitors continue to enjoy aggressive support from their countries' export credit agencies; and

Whereas, A failure to reauthorize the Ex-Im Bank would amount to unilateral disarmament in the face of other nations' aggressive trade finance programs that favor their domestic companies over American companies; and

Whereas, Economic growth depends on increasing exports from both small and large manufacturers and service providers in California and reauthorization means support for California exports and California jobs; and

Whereas, in the 114th United States Congress, 1st Session, legislation is pending that would continue the Ex-Im Bank's capacity for creating jobs while also making its practices more accountable and transparent, as well as making the bank more solvent and self-sufficient: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature urges Congress to support Export-Import Bank of the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM–56. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Government to immediately dispose of the public lands within Arizona's borders directly to the State of Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2005

Whereas, at the time of Arizona's Enabling Act, the course and practice of the United States Congress with all prior states admitted to the Union had been to fully dispose, within a reasonable time, of all lands within the boundaries of such states, except for those Indian lands, or lands otherwise expressly reserved to the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States; and

Whereas, the State of Arizona did not contemplate, and could not have contemplated, the United States failing or refusing to dispose of all lands within its defined boundaries within a reasonable time such that the State of Arizona and its permanent fund for its public schools could never realize the anticipated benefit of the deployment, taxation and economic benefit of all the lands within its defined boundaries; and

Whereas, Arizona's Enabling Act contemplates that Arizona's temporary suspension of its sovereign right to tax the public lands within its borders for the benefit of its public schools and the common good of the state ends the very moment that the national government discharges of its trust obligation to immediately dispose of Arizona's public lands within its borders; and

Whereas, under Article I, section 8, clause 17 of the United States Constitution, the national government is constitutionally authorized to exercise right, title and jurisdiction only over lands that are ''purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings''; and

Whereas, the United States Congress never purchased land designated as national parks nor did it ever seek or obtain the consent of the Arizona Legislature as required under Article I, section 8, clause 17 of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, because of the failure of the national government to immediately dispose of

land within the borders of Arizona, this state bears the burden of the inestimable entanglements and expectations over the multiple use of these public lands that were required to be disposed of that have accumulated for more than one hundred years; and

Whereas, Arizona should have had total control over its public lands from 1912, plus a reasonable time for disposition of the lands; and

Whereas, Arizona has been substantially damaged in its ability to provide funding for education because the national government has unduly retained control of much of the land lying within Arizona's borders; and

Whereas, had the national government sold the land in or about 1912, much of the net proceeds should have been applied to paying down the national public debt, and some should have gone to the state of Arizona's permanent fund for the support of the public schools; and

Whereas, Arizona consistently ranks high among all states in class size and low in per pupil funding for education; and

Whereas, had the national government disposed of the land in or about 1912, Arizona would have generated, from that point forward, substantial tax revenues to the benefit of its public schools and to the common good of the state; and

Whereas, the national government gives Arizona less than half of the proceeds of mineral lease revenues and severance taxes generated from the lands within this state's borders; and

Whereas, Arizona has been substantially damaged in mineral lease revenues and severance taxes in that, had the national government disposed of land in or about 1912, Arizona would realize 100% of the mineral lease revenues and severance taxes from the lands; and

Whereas, Arizona has been damaged by the inordinate cost and substantial uncertainty regarding the national government's infringement on Arizona's sovereign control of public lands within its borders; and

Whereas, County of Shoshone v. United States (unpublished), which confirmed that state law controls in determining what constitutes sufficient public use, Shelby County v. Holder, which clarified that ''the fundamental principle of equal sovereignty remains highly pertinent in assessing [post-admission] disparate treatment of states'' and People for the Ethical Treatment of Property Owners v. United States Fish and Wildlife Service, which confirmed the federal government's abuse of the Commerce Clause authority, all lend support to the notion that the public lands within Arizona's borders should be transferred to Arizona: and

Whereas, because of the breach of Arizona's Enabling Act, and the damages resulting from it, the United States Congress should immediately dispose of the public lands lying within the State of Arizona directly to the State of Arizona; and

Whereas, the national government has an obligation to present and future generations to pay the public debt, yet it has demonstrated a reckless disregard for the growing national debt even as it continues to worsen at an exponential rate.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States government immediately and not later than December 31, 2019 dispose of the public lands within Arizona's borders directly to the State of Arizona.

2. That the United States Congress engage in good faith communication, cooperation, coordination and consultation with the State of Arizona regarding the immediate disposal of the public lands directly to this state.

3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, the Chief of the United States Forest Service, the Chairperson of the United States House Committee on Natural Resources, the Chairperson of the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM–57. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to vote to approve the Keystone XL oil pipeline; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1006

Whereas, the United States relies, and will continue to rely for many years, on gasoline, diesel and jet fuel for sources of energy; and

Whereas. in order to fuel our economy, the United States will need more oil and natural gas in addition to alternative energy sources; and

Whereas, the United States currently depends on foreign imports for more than half of its petroleum usage and is the largest consumer of petroleum in the world; and

Whereas, United States dependence on overseas oil has created difficult geopolitical relationships with potentially damaging consequences for our national security; and

Whereas, oil deposits in the Bakken Reserves of Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota are an increasingly important crude oil resource; and

Whereas, there is not enough pipeline capacity to deliver crude oil supplies from Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas to American refineries; and

Whereas, Canadian oil reserves total 174 billion barrels, of which 169 billion barrels can be recovered from the oil sands using today's technology; and

Whereas, Canada is the single largest supplier of crude oil to the United States at 3.05 million barrels per day and has the capacity to significantly increase that rate; and

Whereas, the southern leg of the Keystone XL pipeline ties into the existing Keystone pipeline that already runs to Canada, bringing up to 700,000 barrels of oil a day to refineries in Texas. At peak capacity, the pipeline will deliver 830,000 barrels of oil per day; and

Whereas, according to the United States State Department's fifth Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Final SEIS), which was issued on January 31, 2014, the Keystone XL pipeline will be the safest pipeline ever constructed on American soil, will have minimal impact on the environment, will create thousands of much-needed jobs and bolster the United States' energy security; and

Whereas, according to the Final SEIS, the Keystone XL pipeline will support approximately 42,100 direct, indirect and induced jobs and result in approximately $2 billion in earnings throughout the United States; and

Whereas, the Final SEIS predicts that the Keystone XL pipeline will contribute approximately $3.4 billion to the United States gross domestic product and provide a substantial increase in tax revenues for local counties along the pipeline route, with 17 to 27 counties expected to see tax revenues increase by 10% or more; and

Whereas, the Oklahoma-Texas leg of the Keystone pipeline system, also referred to as the Gulf Coast segment, went into service in late January 2014; and

Whereas, according to a recent economic analysis report conducted by noted economist Bud Weinstein at Southern Methodist University Cox School of Business, the Gulf Coast segment injected $2.14 billion into the Oklahoma economy and more than $3.6 billion into the Texas economy; and

Whereas, a recent study by the United States Department of Energy found that increasing delivery of crude oil from Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Alberta, as well as Texas and Oklahoma, to American refineries has the potential to substantially reduce our country's dependency on sources outside of North America: and

Whereas, Canada sends more than 99% of its oil exports to the United States, the bulk of which goes to Midwestern refineries: and

Whereas, oil companies are investing huge sums to expand and upgrade refineries in the Midwest and elsewhere to make gasoline and other refined products from Canadian oil derived from oil sands, and the expansion and upgrade projects will create many new construction jobs over the next five years; and

Whereas, 90% of the money used to buy Canadian oil will likely later be spent directly on United States goods and services; and

Whereas, since 2011, nearly 30 public opinion polls have repeatedly confirmed that building the Keystone XL pipeline is in the best interest of the vast majority of Americans: and

Whereas, supporting the continued shift towards reliable and secure sources of North American oil is of vital interest to the United States and the State of Arizona.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress vote to approve the Keystone XL oil pipeline.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM–58. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to oppose the designation of the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument in northern Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1001

Whereas, Arizonans value the Grand Canyon as a national and world treasure and as an economic engine; and

Whereas, there is no threat to the Grand Canyon National Park and its surrounding lands; and

Whereas, existing laws and regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and many others, ensure the protection and responsible use of the Grand Canyon National Park and its surrounding lands; and

Whereas, as of 2012, Arizona had the third highest total designated wilderness acreage in the United States with 4.5 million acres. Additionally, another 5.8 million acres were affected by special land use designations, including national monuments; and

Whereas, only three members of the eleven-member Arizona congressional delegation and others have requested that the President of the United States use his authority under the Antiquities Act to designate an estimated 1.7 million acres in northern Arizona as the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument; and

Whereas, this proposed designation would almost double the amount of acreage designated as national monuments in Arizona

and would be the nation's second largest national monument after the neighboring Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in southern Utah, which is over 1.8 million acres; and

Whereas, the federal government granted lands at statehood to the State of Arizona to be held in trust to provide a source of income for schools and other beneficiaries; and

Whereas, the proposed monument designation would severely impact thousands of acres of state trust lands locked up within its boundaries and deny their beneficial use to the trust; and

Whereas, this taking of state trust lands within the proposed national monument without just compensation would be a breach of the sacred trust between the State of Arizona and the federal government that was agreed on in this state's enabling act and harms Arizona's school children; and

Whereas, withdrawal of this vast amount of lands from multiple-use management eliminates or restricts reasonable and thoughtful use of these natural resources for multiple purposes, such as recreation, grazing, mining, energy development and forestry; and

Whereas, multiple-use management of these lands by the United States Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service is based on resource management plans that were developed with public input and have framed the use of these lands since the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act in 1976; and

Whereas, responsible use of natural resources provides a substantial economic benefit to northern Arizona and there is no reason to eliminate this benefit for a nonexistent threat; and

Whereas, the conservation of wildlife resources across Arizona is the trust responsibility of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission; and

Whereas, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission voted to oppose the proposed Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument on May 11, 2012 and its analysis found that monument designation can lead to restrictions on proactive wildlife management, including hunting and fishing access; and

Whereas, national monument designation requires a very narrow management regime and could severely restrict forest management activities, such as scientifically established fire management, erosion control and invasive species treatments; and

Whereas, in addition, Arizona's proper management of state forest lands, which includes selective logging, has made for a healthy and prolific environment for naturally occurring habitat and has proven effective in preventing habitat loss, as has occurred on federally managed forest lands, through wildfire; and

Whereas, consideration of the effects on the customs, cultures and economic wellbeing of our local communities as well as important historic and cultural aspects of our local heritage; and

Whereas, the cost benefit of this proposal must be considered; and

Whereas, while a minority caucus of three of the eleven-member Arizona congressional delegation and a small, yet vocal, group of others advocate to transfer state resources to the federal government, the State of Arizona desires to uphold the congressional designation of the multiple-use policy as per the Federal Land Management Policy Act as being best for our citizens and Arizona's economy.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the President of the United States does not designate the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument in northern Arizona.

2. That the United States Congress oppose the designation of the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument in northern Arizona.

3. That any new monuments, including the proposed Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument, have express state and congressional approval before they are so designated by the President.

4. That the Governor and the Attorney General of the State of Arizona take appropriate actions to implement this Memorial.

5. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona, the Secretary of the Interior, the Governor of the State of Arizona and the Attorney General of the State of Arizona.

POM–59. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to pass H.R. 594; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1004

Whereas, on April 21, 2014, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers published a proposed rule in the Federal Register that defines ''Waters of the United States'' under the Clean Water Act; and

Whereas, the final rule is projected to be published in the Federal Register by August 31, 2015; and

Whereas, the rule purports to clarify issues raised in two United States Supreme Court decisions, Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Rapanos v. United States, that created uncertainty over the Clean Water Act's scope and application; and

Whereas, the rule will expand the scope of the Clean Water Act, resulting in greater impacts to this state, as well as on local governments, their citizens and their businesses; and

Whereas, the rule will subject almost all physical areas with a connection, or a ''significant nexus,'' to downstream navigable waters, including features such as ditches, natural or manmade ponds and floodplains, to the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act; and

Whereas, the rule will apply to all programs under the Clean Water Act; and

Whereas, the rule change will cause significant harm to local farmers, stall the development of businesses and strip local providers of their control of land use for sustainable food production; and

Whereas, the cost to our municipalities and taxpayers will be enormous; and

Whereas, the rule is contrary to the ruling of the United States Supreme Court in Rapanos as it appears to rely heavily on the minority opinion's concept of ''significant nexus,'' which was rejected by the Court's prevailing opinion; and

Whereas, the term ''significant nexus'' does not appear in the Clean Water Act: and

Whereas, under the rule, groundwater may be used in making determinations of a ''significant nexus,'' which is an overreach of the federal agencies as groundwater systems are under the jurisdiction of the states and should not be broadly used in justifying a determination of jurisdictional water of the United States; and

Whereas, in Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, the United States Supreme Court stated that the use of ''case by case'' determinations should be the exception, not the rule, and the rule allows for broad use of case by case determinations, which inserts needless uncertainty into the development process; and

Whereas, the rule grants the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers authorities not specifically granted to them by the Clean Water Act; and

Whereas, the proposed rule, should it become effective, will hamper beneficial development, increase costs of infrastructure construction and maintenance and result in an unacceptable level of uncertainty in the permitting process; and

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States was meant to reserve to the states exclusive jurisdiction over their respective nonnavigable, intrastate waters and waterways within their boundaries except as expressly delegated to the federal government by the Constitution or prohibited by it to the states. and the federal government's power to regulate navigable waters cannot constitutionally reach nonnavigable, intrastate waters and waterways that have no significant connection to navigable waters; and

Whereas, it is impractical for the federal government to regulate every ditch, pond and rain puddle that may have some tenuous connection, miles away, to a body of water that is currently defined as ''navigable.''

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress pass H.R. 594, which prohibits the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers from developing, finalizing, adopting, implementing, applying, administering or enforcing the proposed federal rule that defines ''Waters of the United States'' under the Clean Water Act.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona, the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Commanding General and Chief of Engineers of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

POM–60. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency to refrain from reducing the ozone concentration standard; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1014

Whereas, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to reduce the national ambient air quality standard for ozone from 75 parts per billion to 65 to 70 parts per billion, while taking comment on a level as low as 60 parts per billion; and

Whereas, the Clean Air Act requires the EPA to review the ozone concentration standard every five years, and the EPA last updated this standard in 2008, setting it at 75 parts per billion; and

Whereas, if the EPA reduced the standard to 70 parts per billion, nine out of 11 counties monitored for ozone levels in Arizona would be out of compliance; and

Whereas, if the EPA reduced the standard to 65 parts per billion, all 11 counties monitored for ozone levels in Arizona would be out of compliance, and the four rural counties that are not currently monitored might also be out of compliance; and

Whereas, a revised ozone standard of 65 to 70 parts per billion would result in widespread nonattainment designations in areas of the nation that already meet the current ozone standards; and

Whereas, based on 2011 through 2013 monitoring data, the EPA reports that 358 counties in the nation would violate a standard of 70 parts per billion and that an additional 200 counties would violate a standard of 65 parts per billion; and

Whereas, nonattainment area designations would limit economic and job growth by restricting new and expanded industrial and manufacturing facilities, imposing emission ''offset'' requirements on new sources of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds emissions, constraining oil and gas extraction and raising electricity prices for industries and consumers; and

Whereas, low-income and fixed-income citizens would bear the brunt of higher energy costs and utility bills; and

Whereas, according to the National Association of manufacturers, the EPA's proposal could be the most expensive regulation ever issued on the American public, costing the nation $270 billion to $360 billion annually; and

Whereas, according to the National Association of Manufacturers, the proposed ozone regulations could cost Arizona $28 billion in gross state product loss from 2017 to 2040, 19,982 lost jobs or job equivalents per year, $639 million in total compliance costs and a $520 drop in average household consumption per year; and

Whereas, the National Association of Manufacturers predicts that the EPA's proposed standards could result in a 15% increase in residential electricity prices, a 32% increase in residential natural gas prices and an 8% reduction in Arizona's coal-fired generating capacity; and

Whereas, the EPA has identified only 46% of the controls needed to meet the proposed standards, and the remaining 54% would have to be met with unknown controls that the EPA has not yet identified but that would likely have to include early shutdowns and scrappage of existing facilities, equipment and vehicles; and

Whereas, early retirement and scrappage of power plants, industrial facilities, heavy-duty trucks and equipment and automobiles would be much more costly ways to remove each additional ton of emissions than the controls the EPA has identified; and

Whereas, air quality continues to improve, and nitrogen oxide emissions are already down to 60% nationwide since 1980, which, after adjusting for economic growth, implies a 90% reduction in emission rates from the relatively uncontrolled 1990 rates for nitrogen oxide-emitting sources; and

Whereas, average ozone concentrations have decreased significantly in both urban and rural areas over the past two decades in response to state and federal emission control programs; and

Whereas, states are on track to be fully in attainment with the current standards, but some have not yet reached full attainment; and

Whereas, instead of giving states enough time to meet the current standards through ongoing emission reduction programs, the EPA now wants to move the goalpost by imposing a lower standard; and

Whereas, retaining the current ozone standards would provide for continued air quality improvement throughout the nation as emission reduction programs under existing EPA regulations are implemented.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the EPA refrain from reducing the ozone concentration standard from 75 parts per billion to 65 to 70 parts per billion.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate. the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM–61. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to focus future Mexican wolf introduction efforts on remote areas within the northern Sierra Madre Occidental mountain range, to halt additional introductions of Mexican wolves in Arizona, and to shift the responsibility for the Mexican wolf introduction to the Arizona Game and Fish Department; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1003

Whereas, on January 16, 2015, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued a revised experimental population rule under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) that provides for a population objective of 300 to 325 wolves in Arizona and New Mexico and expands the areas within which Mexican wolves can occupy and disperse with the goal of phasing the releases westward over a period of twelve years; and

Whereas, the revised experimental population rule raises concerns regarding the creation of an unmanageable Mexican wolf population, fails to consider state and local interests and remains silent on Mexican wolf recovery; and

Whereas, Congress enacted section 10(j) of the ESA to mitigate fears that reestablishing populations of endangered species would negatively impact landowners and other private parties, recognizing that flexible rules, developed in consultation with local governments and private citizens, could encourage recovery partners to actively assist in the establishment and hosting of endangered populations on their lands; and

Whereas, to the maximum extent practicable, section 10(j) rules are intended to represent an agreement between the USFWS, affected state and federal agencies and persons holding any interest in land that may be affected by the establishment of an experimental population; and

Whereas, the objective of 1982 Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan is the establishment of a viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 Mexican wolves in the wild; and

Whereas, at the end of 2014, there were a minimum of 109 wolves in the wild in Arizona and New Mexico, all of which were conceived and born in the wild as a direct result of previous wolf introduction efforts; and

Whereas, the costs to date of this program have exceeded $7.3 million; and

Whereas, the implementation of the revised experimental population rule will allow additional wolves to be introduced within Arizona and New Mexico; and

Whereas, the introduction of wolves into Arizona and New Mexico has resulted in significant adverse impacts on private landowners and resource users, as well as hunting and other recreational activities, which are vital to our local and regional economy; and

Whereas, under its regulations, the USFWS must consult with appropriate state fish and wildlife agencies, local governmental entities, affected federal agencies and affected private landowners in developing and implementing experimental population rules; and

Whereas, in developing its experimental population rules for the Mexican wolf, the USFWS has failed to meaningfully consult with local governmental entities, whose citizens will be adversely affected by the introduction of wolves, and with private land and resource users who will be adversely impacted by the introduction of wolves; and

Whereas, the adopted experimental population rule for the Mexican wolf will create even greater conflicts with private landowners and resource users; and

Whereas, the Arizona Game and Fish Department provided the USFWS and the United States Department of the Interior with a notice of intent to bring a civil action pursuant to section 11(g)(1)(C) of the ESA for the Secretary of the Interior's failure to develop a recovery plan for the Mexican gray wolf that meets the legal requirements in section 4(f) of the ESA; and

Whereas, the federal government has failed to take into consideration the customs, cultures, historic heritage and local and state economic well-being of areas that have been identified as habitats for this species; and

Whereas, the Secretary of the Interior has a nondiscretionary duty under section 4(f) to develop a recovery plan that incorporates ''objective. measurable criteria which when met, would result in a determination, in accordance with the provisions of this section, that the species be removed from the list.''

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the USFWS focus future Mexican wolf introduction efforts on remote areas within the northern Sierra Madre Occidental mountain range, which contains substantial habitat suitable for Mexican wolves and, in many places, is largely uninhabited.

2. That the USFWS halt additional introductions of Mexican wolves in Arizona.

3. That the USFWS shift the primary responsibility for the administration of the Mexican wolf introduction program in Arizona to the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

4. That the Secretary of the Interior comply with the Secretary of the Interior's duty under section 4(f) of the ESA to develop a recovery plan that incorporates ''objective, measureable criteria which when met, would result in a determination, in accordance with the provisions of this section, that the species be removed from the list.''

5. That the Governor and the Attorney General of the State of Arizona take appropriate actions to uphold this state's responsibilities with respect to the recovery plan and defend this state against overreaching federal regulations.

6. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, the Attorney General of the State of Arizona, the Governor of the State of Arizona, the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM–62. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona commending the nation of Israel for its cordial and mutually beneficial relationship with the United States and with the State of Arizona; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1019

Whereas, Israel has been granted her land under and through the oldest recorded deed, as recorded in the Old Testament, scripture that is held sacred and revered by Jews and Christians alike, the acts and words of God; and

Whereas, the claim and presence of the Jewish people in Israel has remained constant throughout the past 4,000 years of history; and

Whereas, the legal basis for the establishment of the modern State of Israel was a binding act of international law established in the San Remo Resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the League of Nations in 1922 and subsequently affirmed by both houses of the United States Congress; and

Whereas, this resolution affirmed the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in the historical region of the Land of Israel, including the areas of Judea, Samaria and Jerusalem; and

Whereas, Article 80 of the United Nations Charter recognized the continued validity of the rights granted to states or peoples that already existed under international instruments, and, therefore, the 1922 League of Nations resolution remains valid and the 650,000 Jews currently residing in the areas of Judea, Samaria and eastern Jerusalem reside there legitimately; and

Whereas, Israel declared its independence and self-governance on May 14, 1948, with the goal of reestablishing its God-given and legally recognized land as a homeland for the Jewish people; and

Whereas, the United States, as the first country to recognize Israel as an independent nation and as Israel's principal ally, has enjoyed a close and mutually beneficial relationship with Israel and her people; and

Whereas, Israel is the greatest friend and ally of the United States in the Middle East, and the values of our two nations are so intertwined that it is impossible to separate one from the other; and

Whereas, there are those in the Middle East who have continually sought to destroy Israel from the time of its inception as a state, and those same enemies of Israel also hate and seek to destroy the United States; and

Whereas, the State of Arizona and Israel have enjoyed cordial and mutually beneficial relations since 1948, a friendship that continues to strengthen with each passing year; and

Whereas, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke before a joint session of Congress on March 3, 2015 and urged the United States to stand with Israel to ''stop Iran's march of conquest, subjugation and terror'' and warned the United States that an emerging nuclear agreement with Iran ''paves Iran's path to the bomb'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring:

1. That the Members of the Legislature commend Israel for its cordial and mutually beneficial relationship with the United States and with the State of Arizona and support Israel as a Jewish state in its legal, historical, moral and God-given right of self-governance and self-defense on the entirety of its own lands, recognizing that Israel is not an occupier of the lands of others and that peace can be afforded in the region only through a whole and united Israel.

2. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, each member of Congress from the State of Arizona and the Governor of the State of Arizona.

POM–63. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Georgia encouraging the representation of diverse populations of different racial and ethnic backgrounds in clinical research and the dedication of additional community resources to increase awareness on the importance of participating in clinical trials, to provide support for patient participation, and to promote effective partnerships with the community to achieve solutions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 590

Whereas, developing new medicines and other treatment options is a complex process that involves clinical trials to explore whether a medical strategy, treatment, or device is safe and effective for humans; and

Whereas, volunteer participation is necessary to evaluate potential therapies for safety and effectiveness in clinical studies; and

Whereas, often the enrolled patient population is not representative of United States demographics or subpopulations impacted by the particular disease; and

Whereas, groups such as African Americans and Hispanics are significantly underrepresented in clinical trials; according to the Food and Drug Administration, African Americans represent 12 percent of the United States population but only 5 percent of clinical trial participants, and Hispanics comprise 16 percent of the population but only 1 percent of clinical trial participants; and

Whereas, despite a congressional mandate that research financed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) include minorities, non-whites comprise fewer than 5 percent of participants in NIH-supported studies; and

Whereas, certain medical conditions have been known to affect particular demographic groups more than others, including Type 2 diabetes for which African Americans and Hispanics are twice as likely to be diagnosed on average; and

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sickle cell trait is common among African Americans and occurs in about one in 12, and sickle cell disease occurs in about one out of every 500 African American births, compared to about one out of every 36,000 Hispanic American births; and

Whereas, race and ethnicity have also been demonstrated to affect the efficacy of and response to certain drugs, such as antihypertensive therapies in the treatment of hypertension in African Americans and antidepressants in Hispanics; and

Whereas, many barriers exist that account for the low rate of participation among diverse communities, including patient fear of experimentation and lack of understanding or education with regard to the importance of clinical trials in creating new treatments and cures: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this body encourage the representation of diverse populations of different racial and ethnic backgrounds in clinical research and the dedication of additional community resources to increase awareness on the importance of participating in clinical trials, to provide support for patient participation, and to promote effective partnerships with the community to achieve solutions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Georgia delegation to the United States Congress, and other federal and state government officials as appropriate.

POM–64. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Iowa urging the United states Congress to repeal the Act of June 30, 1948, Public Law Number 846, 62 Statute 1161, which conferred on the State of Iowa jurisdiction over offenses committed by or against Indians on the Meskwaki Settlement and to take whatever steps are necessary to achieve such a repeal; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 5

Whereas, the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa (the Meskwaki) is a federally recognized tribe organized in accordance with Section 16 of the federal Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 984, as amended by the federal Act of June 15, 1935, 49 Stat. 378, under a Constitution and Bylaws approved by the Secretary of the Interior on December 20, 1937; and

Whereas, in 1857, the Meskwaki purchased 80 acres in Tama County which was held in trust by the State of Iowa as permitted by then Governor James Grimes and for the next 30 years the Meskwaki governed themselves virtually free from interference from both the federal and state governments; and

Whereas, the jurisdictional status of the Meskwaki during this period of time was unclear as the tribe was recognized by the federal government but also had a continuing relationship with the State of Iowa due to the Meskwaki's private ownership of land which was held in trust by the Governor of the State of Iowa; and

Whereas, in 1895, in order to clear up any ambiguities, the State of Iowa ceded to the federal government all jurisdiction over the Meskwaki with the stipulation that nothing in the transfer of the tribal lands would prevent the State of Iowa from exercising jurisdiction over crimes against the laws of Iowa committed either by Indians or others on the Meskwaki Settlement; and

Whereas, during what is now known as the Indian Termination Era, the United States government tried to end its trusteeship over Indian reservations throughout the country and in part passed the federal Act of June 30, 1948, which conferred jurisdiction over criminal offenses committed on the Meskwaki Settlement to the State of Iowa; and

Whereas, the federal Act of June 30, 1948, was passed at a time when there was a perception that there was lawlessness on the Meskwaki Settlement and an absence of adequate tribal institutions for law enforcement; and

Whereas the passage of the federal Act of June 30, 1948, provided no federal funding to the State of Iowa to assume this responsibility which has amounted to an unfunded federal mandate and the resulting cost over the years has been unfairly borne by the taxpayers of Tama County; and

Whereas, in the past 67 years much has changed at the federal, state, and tribal levels in the area of criminal law enforcement and in the development of laws in general on the Meskwaki Settlement; and

Whereas, the federal Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111–211, authorized Indian tribes to expand the prosecution and punishment of criminal offenders if certain due process requirements were followed; and

Whereas, Indian tribes have recently achieved more authority to prosecute criminal offenses committed on tribal lands as evidenced by the enactment of the federal Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, Pub. L. No. 113–4, which for the first time allowed tribal enforcement over non-natives who commit domestic violence on tribal lands; and

Whereas, the State of Iowa was the first in the nation to pass Native American grave protection legislation, commonly known as the Iowa Graves Protection Act, 1976 Iowa Acts, ch. 1158, §7, that came into law before the federal version and before the more recent passage of Iowa's Recognition and Enforcement of Tribal Civil Judgments Act, 2007 Iowa Acts, ch. 192, which followed the development of the Meskwaki Tribal Court System in 2005, with its first case being tried

in 2006, and 2003 state legislation, 2003 Iowa Acts, ch. 87, recognizing the Meskwaki Tribal Police and allowing them to participate in the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and to become state certified; and

Whereas, the Meskwaki has greatly enhanced at its own expense the tribe's criminal justice system and now provides a fully functioning court system through the establishment of a state certified police force, legally trained and licensed public defenders, prosecutors and judges, and a full-time probation officer, and provides for the publication of its tribal laws; and

Whereas, the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the Iowa Coalition against Domestic Violence have noted that the victims of domestic violence on the Meskwaki Settlement prefer that prosecution and other court services be handled by the tribal court of the Meskwaki Settlement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the Iowa General Assembly urges the members of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives to repeal the Act of June 30, 1948, Pub. L. No. 846, 62 Stat. 1161, which conferred on the State of Iowa jurisdiction over offenses committed by or against Indians on the Meskwaki Settlement and to take whatever steps are necessary to achieve such a repeal; and be it further

Resolved, That upon passage of this resolution, the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

POM–65. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to enact legislation similar to the Mohave County Radiation Compensation Act of 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2004

Whereas, the United States conducted nearly 200 atmospheric nuclear weapons development tests from 1945 to 1962; and

Whereas, essential to the nation's nuclear weapons development was uranium mining and processing, which was carried out by tens of thousands of workers; and

Whereas, following cessation of the tests in 1962, many of these workers filed class action lawsuits alleging exposure to known radiation hazards; and

Whereas, these suits were dismissed by the appellate courts, but the United States Congress responded with the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA), which devised a program allowing partial restitution to individuals who developed serious illnesses after exposure to radiation released during the atmospheric nuclear tests or after employment in the uranium industry; and

Whereas, RECA presents an apology and monetary compensation to individuals who contracted certain cancers and other serious diseases following exposure to radiation released during the atmospheric nuclear weapons tests or following occupational exposure to radiation while employed in the uranium industry during the Cold War arsenal buildup; and

Whereas, RECA was designed to serve as an expeditious, low-cost alternative to litigation; and

Whereas, Mohave County was not included as an affected area for purposes of making claims under RECA based on exposure to atmospheric nuclear testing; and

Whereas, in 2013, United States Representative Paul Gosar introduced H.R. 424, known as the Mohave County Radiation Compensation Act of 2013, which sought to include Mohave County as an affected area for purposes of making claims under RECA; and

Whereas, H.R. 424 was not enacted.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the Members of the United States Congress enact legislation similar to United States Representative Paul Gosar's Mohave County Radiation Compensation Act of 2013 that adds Mohave County as an affected area for purposes of making claims under RECA.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM–66. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the Congress of the United States and Department of Veterans Affairs to review the disability rating process; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1008

Whereas, military veterans with similar disabilities are receiving disparate disability ratings because of different standards, policies and procedures used by the physical evaluation boards operated by the military departments; and

Whereas, achieving consistent disability ratings regardless of service is an important objective that will ensure service members are treated equitably; and

Whereas, disability significantly increases the veteran poverty rate; the rate of increase is nearly twice that of the nonveteran disabled population; and

Whereas, even those veterans who receive Social Security Disability or Supplemental Security Income benefits have incomes under $9,000 per year; and

Whereas, 60% of hiring organizations polled in a June 2010 Society for Human Resource Management survey said that translating military skills to a civilian job experience could pose a challenge in hiring veterans and 46% said the same about hiring those who suffer from posttraumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues; and

Whereas, while service members are often promised saleable skills and job opportunities they would not have access to otherwise, the reality is that veterans often feel discriminated against and overlooked in the workplace; and

Whereas, veterans who are granted a Total Disability Rating Based on Individual Unemployability are subject to earning restrictions.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Department of Veterans Affairs review the disability rating process to ensure that similar disabilities are rated similarly.

2. That the United States Department of Veterans Affairs review the limitations on employment of veterans with disabilities and the ways in which veteran benefits are impacted if a veteran with a disability becomes employed to ensure that veterans with disabilities are not hindered from joining the workforce.

3. That the United States Department of Veterans Affairs remove the earning restriction associated with the Total Disability Rating Based on Individual Unemployability.

4. That the United States Department of Veterans Affairs develop programs and incentives to encourage employers to hire veterans with disabilities.

5. That the United States Congress enact legislation that codifies into the United States Code the text of 38 Code of Federal Regulations section 4.16, which provides that employment in a protected environment is not considered substantially gainful employment for the purposes of a Total Disability Rating Based on Individual Unemployability.

6. That the United States Congress define ''protected environment'' to include businesses that make special accommodations for veterans with disabilities.

7. That the United States Congress enact legislation that prevents the United States Department of Veterans Affairs from decreasing a Total Disability Rating Based on Individual Unemployability if the veteran is marginally employed in a protected environment.

8. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this Memorial to the Secretary of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM–67. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine memorializing the Congress of the United States to pass necessary legislation that will help all our veterans, from all our wars and conflicts, from World War II to present-day Iraq and Afghanistan to the extent necessary; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

JOINT RESOLUTION S.P. 474

We your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the United States Congress as follows:

Whereas, military personnel from the State of Maine have answered the call to serve our Nation many times and Maine is estimated to be 3rd in the Nation per capita for military service. According to Veterans Administration records, Maine has had 11,531 military members serve since the tragic events of 9/11; and

Whereas, members of the Maine National Guard and Reservists have been deployed many times over and many have returned from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan needing assistance and medical care; and

Whereas, 55 of Maine's services members have been killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

Whereas, more than 320 have received the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat; and

Whereas, many have returned home with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, hearing problems and other physical and mental disabilities; and

Whereas, many communities in Maine need someone who can meet with veterans and survivors to explain benefits and to get the word out to veterans and theirfamilies concerning frequently changing Veterans Administration benefits and eligibility; and

Whereas, major issues for returning veterans concerning increasing suicide rates, homelessness, unemployment and education were brought before the 113th Congress with little or no substantive results; and

Whereas, as the 114th Congress begins, veterans and their families in Maine and across the Nation hope that the new Congress will be responsive and helpful and aggressively address the many issues facing the veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

Whereas, the men and women who serve our State and Nation so faithfully deserve to have access to care, housing, medical treatment and mental and physical therapy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to urge the United States Congress to take the lead in passing necessary legislation that will help all our veterans, from all our wars and conflicts, from World War II to present-day Iraq and Afghanistan to the extent necessary; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM–68. A resolution adopted by the California State Lands Commission supporting S.414, the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM–69. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico expressing firm support to the decision of the President of the United States to restore diplomatic relations between the government of the United States and the government of the Republic of Cuba; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 242. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide leave to any new Federal employee who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disability, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–89).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 764. A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–90).

S. 834. A bill to amend the law relating to sport fish restoration and recreational boating safety, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–91).

H.R. 720. A bill to improve intergovernmental planning for and communication during security incidents at domestic airports, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–92).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. John N. T. Shanahan, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Michael X. Garrett, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Capt. Darse E. Crandall, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Joseph E. Tofalo, to be Vice Admiral.

Air Force nomination of Gen. Paul J. Selva, to be General.

Marine Corps nomination of Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., to be General.

Air Force nomination of Gen. Darren W. McDew, to be General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. David J. Buck, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Tod D. Wolters, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Russell J. Handy, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Frank H. Stokes, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. John W. Raymond, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. James E. Porter, Jr., to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Robert P. Ashley, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Daniel R. Hokanson, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Kevin D. Scott, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Kevin M. Donegan, to be Vice Admiral.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Michael H. Shields, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Victor J. Braden, to be Major General .

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Richard P. Breckenridge, to be Vice Admiral.

Air Force nominations beginning with Colonel David W. Ashley and ending with Colonel Richard W. Wedan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2015. (minus 1 nominee: Colonel Robert A. Meyer, Jr.)

Air Force nomination of Col. Steven A. Schaick, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Jeffrey A. Doll, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, to be General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Dondi E. Costin, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Stephen R. Lyons, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. John C. Aquilino, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Robert L. Thomas, Jr., to be Vice Admiral.

Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Lawrence D. Nicholson, to be Lieutenant General.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORD on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nomination of Robert B. A. MacGregor, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jane E. Boomer and ending with Matthew D. Van Dalen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Afsana Ahmed and ending with Reggie D. Yager, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with John C. Rockwell and ending with Stephen J. Torres, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Ana M. Apoltan and ending with Aldo Ttinoco, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brian H. Adams and ending with Mary Jean Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Allen Kipp Albright and ending with Bradley Duncan White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 15, 2015.

Army nomination of David G. Jones, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Raymond L. Phua, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of John M. Bradford, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Steve J. Chun and ending with Benjamin R. Siebert, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Army nomination of Steven L. Isenhour, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Joseph D. Gramling, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Mark S. Snyder, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Keith J. McVeigh, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Lisa M. Stremel, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Michael N. Cleveland and ending with Michael W. Summers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Army nominations beginning with Matthew H. Brooks and ending with Jay D. Hanson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Army nominations beginning with Gil A. Diazcruz and ending with Soliman G. Valdez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Army nominations beginning with Nicholas R. Cabano and ending with James W. Pratt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2015.

Army nominations beginning with Kimberly D. Brenda and ending with Carrie A. Storer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2015.

Army nominations beginning with Eric J. Ansorge and ending with D011713, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2015.

Army nominations beginning with John L. Ament and ending with Wendy G. Woodall, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2015.

Army nomination of Laura M. Hudson, to be Major.

Army nomination of Mark R. Read, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of John R. Barclay, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nomination of Thomas F. Murphy III, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Arslan S. Chaudhry and ending with Andrew D. Silvestri, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 24, 2015.

Navy nomination of Benjamin M. Boche, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Michael J. Elliott, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher N. Andrews and ending with Nicholas J. Vandyke, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2015.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Michael C. McGowan, of Delaware, to be United States Marshal for the District of Delaware, for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)